

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the pending claims are rejected as allegedly anticipated in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,533,224 (Takashima). In response, Applicants believe that this reference is antedated by the present application based on its foreign priority application filing date, and thus Takashima should not qualify as prior art. A copy of an English language translation of the foreign priority application is attached herewith.

Accordingly, Applicants believe the rejection should be withdrawn and further submit that the present application is in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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